

The Greenkield Spirit

Visit the town website at http://www.greenfield-nh.gov/ for more information

Dec 2020 - Jan 2021

GREENFIELD'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 28.5 FREE



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This issue of the Spirit Sponsored by the

FRIENDS OF THE GREENFIELD COMMUNITY MEETING HOUSE

See Back Cover

VETERAN'S DAY



Our Veterans were honored for us by (l-r) Chief McQuade, Chief Giammarino, US Army Sergeant Jon Quigley, his daughter Cadence, and Reverend Dan Osgood.

PUBLIC NOTICE WINTER PARKING BAN

By order of the Board of Selectmen, the Town of Greenfield in accordance with Town Ordinance Chapter 1, Section 4, as well as, RSA 105, Sections 6-7-8, **no vehicle shall be left standing on any street in said Greenfield between the hours of 11:00 PM and 6:00 AM.** Effective, November 1, 2020 - April 1, 2021. This is to allow plowing of the streets during snowstorms.

Per order of the Greenfield Selectboard

COVID IS SURGING STAY SAFE

~ WEAR A MASK ~

NOT ONLY A FACESHIELD Faceshields are only effective for large droplets NOT the microscopic mist we all exhale.

Masks Are The Most Important Tool You Have

WASH YOUR HANDS & SOCIAL DISTANCE

TOWN OFFICES

GREENFIELD SELECTBOARD Executive Selectboard meetings are Thurs. at 5:30 pm every week unless otherwise posted.

Selectboard: Margo Charig Bliss Chair, Karen Day, and Robert Marshall Town Administrator: Aaron Patt Email: greenfieldnhbos@myfairpoint.net TOWN OFFICE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Check the town website for updates.

https://www.greenfield-nh.gov/ Office Manager: Catherine Shaw Tel: 547-3442 Fax: 547-3004 Email: greenfieldnhacct@myfairpoint.net

BUILDING/HEALTH INSPECTOR

Inspections by Appt/as needed TOWN OFFICE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC Inspector - Mike Borden Tel: 547-0437 Email: mbordenbi@gmail.com

CONSERVATION COMMISSION TOWN OFFICE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Meetings As needed via Zoom Chair: Roger Lessard Tel: 933-3130 Email: mtking@pobox.com

PLANNING BOARD

Meetings: 2nd & 4th Mon. at 6:30 pm At the Town Offices. Normally the 2nd Mon. meeting is for hearings and the 4th Mon. meeting is for other business.

TOWN OFFICE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC Tel: 547-3442 Chair: Mason Parker

Email: greenfieldnhpb@gmail.com

TOWN CLERK (Registrations) TOWN OFFICE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC Katherine Heck - 547-3442 x 1 WINDOW HOURS:

M, W, TH, 3 pm-5:30 pm By mail and by appointment Office Tel: 547-2782 Leave message. Town Clerk: Dorene Adams Email: greenfielddeputyclerk@gmail.com Deputy Town Clerk: Ann Setaro Email: greenfieldtc2@gmail.com

TAX COLLECTOR TOWN OFFICE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC Please make payments by mail or leave message if needed.

Tax Collector - Kathleen Valliere Tel: 547-2782 Fax: 547-2242 Email: greenfieldnhtaxes@myfairpoint.net

WELFARE DEPARTMENT Welfare Director: Leah Fiasconaro-Conway TOWN OFFICE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC Email: greenfieldnhwelfare@gmail.com Please call: 339-545-1209 Emergency assist: Call Police at 547-2525

TOWN DIRECTORY **OTHER DEPARTMENTS**

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Roads Division Manager: Todd Mason Tel: 547-3504 Email: greenfield.nh.dpw@myfairpoint.net

Buildings & Grounds Division Manager: Rick McQuade Tel: 325-7346 Email: dpwbuildings@myfairpoint.net

STEPHENSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC** Tel: 547-2790 Hours: Tues 2-6, Wed 10-8, Thurs 2-8, Fri 2-6, Sat 10-4 Director: David Bridgewater director@stephensonlibrary.org youth@stephensonlibrary.org

Circulation/General Ouestions circulation@stephensonlibrary.org

RECYCLING CENTER

Hours: Tuesday 8:00 am to 4 pm Thursday 11:00 am to 6:00 pm Saturday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

OPEN REGULAR HOURS Supervisor: Caleb Hall Tel: 547-8617 Email: greenfieldnhrecycling@myfairpoint.net

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT Meetings as needed- Gil Morris, Chair TOWN OFFICE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC Please call the Town Office for information

OTHER CONTACTS

SCHOOL BOARD REP:

TOWN FORESTER NH Licensed Forester Karla Allen Tel: 662-5646 Email: karla@garlandlumber.net

GREENFIELD U.S. POST OFFICE Open Hrs: 8-11:30 am & 1-5 pm, Sat. 8-12 pm Tel: 547-3310 OPEN

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT QUESTIONS 547-3501 Leave Message or **Email:** GreenfieldEMRTQuestions@gmail.com

Sign up for alerts: ReadyNH.gov

EMERGENCIES DIAL 911

POLICE/FIRE/AMBULANCE DIAL 911 or 352-1100

FIRE & POLICE

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief: Rick McQuade Office Tel: 325-7346 Emergency Dispatch: Tel: 352-1100 or 911 Email:chiefrickmcquade@greenfieldfire.org Monthly meetings: 1st Mon. at 6:30 pm

FIRE BURN PERMITS

To obtain a Fire Permit, please go to https://nhdflweb.sovsportsnet.net/ or call one of the following:

FIRE WARDENS & TEL NUMBERS

Eugene Hennessy, Fire Warden	718-3936
David Hall, Deputy FW2	547-2222
Jeff LaCourse, Deputy FW3	582-3289
Michael Borden, Deputy FW 4	547-0437
Chaz Babb, Deputy FW 5	562-0545

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief: Brian Giammarino Office: Tel: 547-2535 Dispatch: 547-2525 Email: greenfieldnhpolice@myfairpoint.net



The Greenfield Spirit

The Greenfield Spirit is published 6 times a year by the Town of Greenfield Selectboard's Office at PO Box 256, Greenfield, NH 03047.

Tel: 603-547-3442 Fax: 603-547-3004

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Editors: Margo Charig Bliss, Karen Day, Robert Marshall, Aaron Patt, and Catherine Shaw

To submit articles to the Spirit:

E-mail text to: GreenfieldSpirit@gmail.com, or drop off typed articles to the Town Offices. Also, please send in photos, articles, event announcements, news of the town, poems, drawings, historical info, etc., with the name of the writer and/or photographer. Thanks!

> All opinions in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Selectboard and may not necessarily represent any town official or department.

TAX RATE

With progress being made on a vaccine for COVID-19, the world is looking forward to turning the page on the Coronavirus pandemic. While it's likely that we may still be another year away, we look back at the complete uncertainty that marked the beginning of Spring and the disruption that was caused across so many sectors of the economy and we know that the damage will be discussed for years to come.

In order to preserve our core services, the Selectboard made a number of cuts to the budget that had been carefully planned as an investment in the community. The good news is that by acting early and swiftly, the decisions made by the Board have resulted in the ability to preserve our workforce, scale back expenditures, make use of grant funding from the State of New Hampshire for COVID expenses, and present a tax rate that is lower than last year. We feel this is an important contribution at a time when families are struggling with work and school schedules, possible unemployment, or under-employment, and other challenges that the virus has caused across so much of our lives.

While 2020 started out with an incredibly strong economy, the damage by the virus was swift and happened everywhere. It was visited upon our community in the form of an outbreak and then the closure of Crotched Mountain; which has provided a cornerstone of payment in lieu of taxation for so many years. With a transition from non-profit to forprofit at Crotched Mountain School underway, we won't know the impact on our budget until sometime next year. Overall revenues have also been down all year, and although are now rebounding, the receipts for 2020 are much lower than anticipated. Greenfield does not have the property valuation to weather loss of revenues without an increase in property tax, but the Board was able to lower the overall budget for the year through the emergency authority conveyed by the Governor's emergency order #56. The result is a tax break instead of a tax increase.

This year we held off on paving East Road; we also held off on applying much needed gravel to our gravel roads; and we lowered the amount of funding in our Capital Reserve Funds. Our tax rate this year, after a lot of difficult decision making is \$27.15, compared to last year at \$27.27. But, as a result of careful management of funds this year, we may have an opportunity to revisit the 2020 Capital Reserve Funds at Town Meeting. Depending on how the projections go, we may offer a warrant article to re-fund the 2020 Capital Reserve Funds out of fund balance (no effect on taxation), and, provide a 2021 warrant article for our capital reserves out of taxation, which would have the effect of preserving our savings trajectory.

One interesting and surprising development is that the ConVal School district received more State Adequacy Aid than last year so the rate for the school is lower. Notwithstanding the good news, things are still a bit up in the air. We have no idea what the winter will bring in the way of the virus - will the State be shut down again if the hospitals are overrun with COVID-19 cases? It's a possibility we don't like to consider. We hope you and your family have a safe and healthy holiday season.

The Greenfield Selectboard

From All of Us in Town Government to All of You. Stay Safe and Have

Happy Holidays!

SPIRIT DEADLINES

JANUARY 1ST FOR THE FEB/MAR ISSUE

March 1st for the Apr/May Issue May 1st for the Jun/Jul Issue July 1st for the Aug/Sep Issue September 1st for the Oct/Nov Issue November 1st for the Dec/Jan Issue

MASKS ARE REQUIRED

in <u>ALL</u> Town Buildings for the

safety of our employees and for the safety of our residents during Covid.

Per order of the Greenfield Selectboard

HITCHING A RIDE ON A STAGE- OF NOTE ~ COACH Like other ag

By Lenny Cornwell

Early roads in our area were basically pathways for horse and rider or possibly a two-wheel cart. Road improvements were undertaken early in the 1830s with the advent of the stagecoach and freight wagons.

With the stagecoach passing through villages, taverns sprang up offering rest, food, lodging, and rum for weary travelers. Horses were also fed, watered and rested. Spare horses were made available. These coaches not only carried passengers, but the mail and some supplies as well. The vehicles were pulled by a team of either four or six horses depending on the condition of the roads.

In most small towns, the arrival of the stagecoach every other day was quite the event ! The mail had arrived ! Who received a letter ? Who arrived in the village or was departing for the day or a longer period of time ? The arrival of the stage broke up the the monotony of everyday life. In the early days, mail was brought to Amherst from Boston by stagecoach and later by train and then picked up by stagecoaches from the outlying towns.

With the advent of rail service to Greenfield, the mail was delivered every day. Both passengers and mail were put on stagecoaches from the depot and traveled to : Francestown, Antrim, Stoddard, Keene, and other points north. The town history shows two coaches - the one for Antrim - Greenfield and the one for Greenfield - Francestown. There is no mention of how the coaches handled winter travel.

A huge stage barn was built off of Depot Street to hold extra horses, harness tack, and feed for the teams. This building burned along with a lot of other structures in the 1901 fire. It was not rebuilt.

Christie Belcher who worked for years at the Hopkins Brothers and Belcher Store drove one of the Concord Coaches between Greenfield and Francestown for several years. He was born and lived in Francestown, but by driving the coach got to know the Hopkins Brothers Store before joining the business himself.

By the late 1920s, the stagecoaches were replaced by motorized coaches or small buses. Such conveyances traveled faster and could deliver guests around town to their destinations. As one mode of travel ended, another enterprise was born.

The Greenfield - Francestown stage was eventually sold to the Francestown Improvement and Historical Society.

A FUN FACT : A one way stagecoach ticket to Boston cost \$3 in 1882.

Sources for this article: Our town history and The Peterborough Transcript.

Like other agencies and organizations, this year, due to Covid -19, the GHS has experienced constraints to its usual fundraising calendar and open museum hours. Membership/ fundraising letters have gone out, and the Board of Directors encourages you to consider supporting the Greenfield Historical Society even more than ever.

Your holiday gift shopping begins locally ! Please consider the locally handcrafted glass sun catchers and the town history book for unique and easily obtainable and mailed gifts. Or, our honey for a sweet gift. Simply call Adele at 547 - 3403 to arrange your purchase.

To join or renew your membership, contact Bruce at 547 - 3451 while Amy at 547 - 3403 will gladly discuss a donation with you.

For those on-line shoppers through Amazon, clicking onto "Amazon Smiles" will automatically add a donation from them to the GHS for you. These donations add up !

If one of your pandemic pastimes has been working on your family tree, you can utilize the Heritage Quest Program sponsored by the GHS at the library, just by using your library card in the comfort of your home.

To arrange for a private visit of the Museum, please call Lenny at 547-2198. Safety protocols are expected.



547-3626 • greenfieldchurch.org



BUILDINGS & GROUNDS DIVISION

The flags on the light poles have come down, air conditioners have been pulled from the windows, Jeremy Gagnon has cleaned up all the flower beds and leaves, the furnaces in the town buildings have been serviced and the grade stakes to mark the parking lots and sidewalks for the plowing season have been put in. Sounds like all of the makings for a change in the season and what's to come next. Once again, Jeremy has done a great job keeping our village looking awesome for another season!

If you were in the village the morning of the election. you got to see the MT sidewalk machine on its maiden voyage out salting the sidewalks. The brake job was completed and new tires were installed. We have just a few minor adjustments to make on the salt/sand hopper on the back and a few lights that are having intermittent issues, but the machine is running 100% better. Now that the main machine has been overhauled, we will focus on the snowblower attachment. The current snowblower is a snowblower off a 3-point hitch for a tractor, that has been modified to work on our machine. Because this is a retrofit, it does create maintenance issues throughout the winter season. In the next year, we will look into pricing on the proper snowblower attachment that will make this machine much more efficient.

Back in the beginning of October, the town purchased air purifiers for each of the town buildings. These air purifiers are set with timers and start running prior to the buildings opening and shut off automatically after the buildings close. These units filter the air using a 5-stage filtration, prefilter, HEPA filtration, active carbon filtration, photocatalytic oxidation and negative Ionization. The machines have been installed in the Meeting House, Library, Town Office, Fire Station, Police Department and DPW. They will help to keep our buildings safe for employees and also the patrons once the town buildings open back up to the public.

At Sunset Lake, repairs will start on the little Beach House in the next few days, my plans are to get the repairs completed and wrapped up by the end of the year and have it buttoned up before snow flies again. We are also in the process of building a roof over the new gas pumps at the DPW. Lots of projects hopefully wrapping up before the end of the year. In the next week, the seasonal decorations will be going up in the village on the light poles.

I would also like to welcome back McGurty Maintenance. McQurty does all of the custodial services for all of our town buildings. When Covid hit, this service was discontinued to try to mitigate the spread of covid. With newly revised cleaning and sterilizing procedures, they are now back cleaning our buildings and ensuring our buildings are clean for our employees.

By the Time this article comes out we will be into the Christmas Season, I want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year.

Rick McQuade B&G Manager

GREENFIELD BROADBAND UPDATE

As you probably already know, Greenfield's internet service leaves much to be desired. To resolve this problem, the Greenfield Volunteer Broadband Committee working together with the Greenfield Select Board has been pursuing "The Chesterfield Model" of bringing broadband to town via a public-private partnership. (The town of Chesterfield pioneered this approach in the State of NH in 2018 and many additional towns have followed since.)

This past summer, after surveying townsfolk and collecting information about the existing service in town, we solicited more than a dozen internet service providers to bring improved broadband internet to Greenfield. Of those, three ISPs replied with proposals. After reviewing the responses the committee felt that Consolidated Communications' proposal provides the fastest timeline to implementation with the lowest barriers to adoption. With the committee's recommendation, the Select Board has chosen to move forward to negotiate a contract with CCI and has begun that process.

To recap: Greenfield will pursue a public-private partnership to bring reliable, high-speed broadband internet to all Greenfield residents. This requires a warrant article at Town Meeting which must pass by a two thirds vote to approve a bond of approximately \$1.5 million dollars. The really good news is that the public-private partnership means that there is zero tax impact! Bond payments will be guaranteed by the internet service provider and are funded by a monthly user fee that is expected to be less than \$15/month. Only subscribers will pay that fee and there is no minimum number of subscribers needed.

Over the course of the next several months there will be public hearings and informational meetings to explain the project, answer questions, and take input from the public. Visit https://www.greenfieldbroadband.com/ or send an email to greenfieldbroadband@gmail.com for information about the project and upcoming meetings and events!

Tom Bascom, Chair





THE FIRE CHIEF'S CORNER

With the daily Covid numbers starting to climb as high as they were back in May and June, I thought I would take this article to share with you my families personal experience with Covid-19. Covid has touched so many and has no restrictions to who you know or where you live. For my family, this virus hit us on October 15th with one of my family members testing positive and going into isolation. Isolation is just that, keeping that family member secluded in a room or area trying to contain the virus. While this family member isolated, the rest of my family quarantined as part of the contact tracing. Even with all of the excessive safety precautions we put in place at my house, the rest of my family was still infected.

When Covid hit our family, we didn't all come down with it at the same time and none of our symptoms were the same. The first family member that tested positive had to come home and isolate from the family. 4 days from that two more of us tested positive, and then 3 days later I tested positive myself. What were our symptoms... one of us had what appeared to be a normal "seasonal cold", one of us had "very minor flu like symptoms", and one of us had "no symptoms at all, except loss of taste and smell". It hit me the hardest with what I would explain as a "moderate case of the flu" with lingering fatigue and something I can only explain as being winded and short of breath very easily at odd times. For me, I have underlying health issues that made it harder for me to get over.

If you do become infected and isolate at home, you can expect several phone calls from the Department of Health and Human Services, the first one within 1-2 days of your positive test. Over my time of isolation, I received several calls where information was gathered about who I had been in contact with over the last 4-5 days prior to my positive test. This is the contact tracing you have heard so much about. They also discuss with you if you are having any new symptoms and how your conditions are improving or deteriorating. If you miss their call for several days, or just don't answer, a representative from DHHS will come to your house to ensure you are isolating and ensure you are OK. They take this very seriously.

So, you ask why tell this story... I think it's important to let everyone know that this is real. You are wearing a mask to protect not just you, but the elderly couple your standing in line with at Home Depot or the grocery store. One of the most surprising facts we found out during this, is the virus stays in your body for up to 90 days, even though you're no longer contagious. Some employers require 2 negative tests before you can return to work, you might just be out for a while. The fact that the virus stays in your body for so long may be one of the reasons they can do effective antibody testing. Once you make it to the end of your 10 days of isolation, as long as your symptoms no longer require medicines to control (for 24 hrs.), the state sends you a letter with a return to work date that you can provide to your employer. You are then released back into society.

When you have to isolate from the world, I believe the effects on your person are 50% mental and 50% physical. From the beginning of the virus you lose all of your independence and freedom. Something as simple as going to the grocery store or pharmacy becomes a chore of a friend or family. In some cases, you have to order your groceries on line, as a stranger drops them at your doorstep. You are confined to your property lines. You also wonder how people will treat you as you come out of isolation, because you know people in town are finding out about your situation and talking about it. After all, we are human. The mental impact on those that are isolating or quarantining can be tough and we were very thankful to have great families and friends who talked with us daily.

Sadly, I do feel that there are people out there that think "this is being blown out of proportion" "it can't happen to me" or "that stuff doesn't happen in small communities", but it does, my family is proof of that. The scariest part of the virus is when you first get diagnosed, you quickly worry about "how bad is this going to get" and you are constantly monitoring how you feel. The stories on the news, to be honest, can scare the heck out of you. For most, you will get over this and in 10 days find yourself getting back to a regular life. For my family, we are all back to work and getting back to normal, thankful that we have weathered this storm.

I can tell you that this virus is very contagious and does spread rapidly. At the time this article was written, (November 11, 2020) there were 13,148 cases of Covid in New Hampshire, the recovery rate was only 78%, deaths were at 4% and the balance in different states of recovery or hospitalization. Folks I know the masks may be awkward or weird feeling to wear, you may even feel self-conscious about it, but they really do help PREVENT the spread of Covid. Lets keep in mind this virus affects the elderly and those with compromised immune systems, this is the demographic we are trying to protect the most.

The last and most important thing I want to mention is Greenfield is a great little town. If you find yourself in a situation where you need anything, I know there are people in this community that will drop what their doing to come to your aid. This really is an awesome community with caring people.

From **All** of us at the Greenfield Fire Department, we want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and hopes for a happy and healthy New Year!

Rick McQuade Fire Chief



Dear Family and Friends in Greenfield (and beyond),

A lot has happened at the Greenfield Congregational Covenant Church over the past months. We have completed our new chapel and main entranceway and other work is under way and upcoming. We want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support, in so many different ways, while this work has been done. Without the support of the town and the many people who have taken a part we would not have gotten this accomplished. The Covid-19 outbreak has made our church activities radically change gears--it has been a real challenge--but we are still "hanging in there" and like everyone, looking forward to the time when we have put this difficult period behind us. Under the most trying circumstances we have made great progress, and without having to resort to borrowing money to do it. We thank God for guiding us through this and providing for us and frankly, giving us patience!

Again, we want to thank so many in town for their good wishes, encouragement and support. We have been around since 1791 and plan on being here for the next centuries to come! Our food pantry and clothes closet continue to help many families deal with these uncertain times, and we have many of you to thank for helping with that. Please think of us when you plan your end-of-the-year giving. Your support helps us and our work in the community in many ways. We believe God has put us here to serve our town and we strive to use any financial help we receive wisely. There are a lot of bad examples of "religious" organizations wasting money, we realize that. Religious hypocrisy hurts us especially as we strive to do the right thing. We take great care to spend every cent we get thoughtfully. So, THANK YOU! everyone, and remember us in your holiday giving this year. We really can't hold an Old Fashioned Christmas service this year, and we are gathering only in small groups. But we all are looking forward to the time when this virus is behind us and we can celebrate and return to the "new normal." We're looking past it. Our prayers are that every individual and family in our area has a safe and blessed holiday season.

God bless you all! Rev. Dan Osgood and the leadership team at the Greenfield Covenant Church

CONSERVATION COMMISSION CHATTER

A year ago, members of the Conservation Commission sowed donated wildflower seeds on the field above the community septic system leach field, in the hope that some would take root. Unfortunately, because they had to compete with the existing vegetation, and aggravated by the very dry summer, there was virtually no evidence of our efforts.

That said, the spring and summer without mowing allowed a plethora of daisies, Queen Anne's lace, and Black Eyed Susans to pop up, attracting numerous bees and other pollinating insects to the site, unofficially named Meadow Park.

Convinced now that we needed to make the plot more receptive to the introduction of new wildflower species, we decided to cover approximately 2,800 square feet of the field with 6 mil thick black plastic, held in place by 6" long staples. This will cause the grass to be smothered next spring, preparing the way for the sowing of wildflowers.

Although not much will happen over the winter, we opted to take advantage of the unseasonably warm weather (coupled with virtually no wind) on Saturday, Nov. 7 to lay down the plastic sheeting, which was completed in under 90 minutes by four Con Com members.

We took care to avoid any of the infrastructure related to the septic system's operation and maintenance.

Now, all we have to do is let the sun do its work. Sometime in late May or early June, we plan to remove the plastic and plant the new wildflower crop. At the same time, as long as the plastic is still usable, we will drag it over to an adjacent area and start the process anew, preparing more of the field for fall planting.

Con Com member Candi Fowler has initiated a conversation with UNH to provide a series of Zoom presentations dealing with subjects such as seed starting, gardening in a changing climate, and growing a pollinator garden, beginning in February. Watch for details in the next edition of this newsletter.

We continue to have one vacancy on the Con Com. Please reach out to Roger Lessard at mtking@pobox.com or call him at 603-933-3130 if you are interested or would like more information.

Stay safe and enjoy the wonders of winter in New Hampshire.





Dear Greenfield Residents,

During this challenging time, our teachers and students need more help than ever. No matter what school looks like, Box Tops for Education is a fast and easy way for you to help out from home.

The Box Tops program has been around for over 20 years, and it really works. In fact, Box Tops for Education has helped give almost a billion dollars to schools since 1996. In 2019, the program evolved to become digital so that you can earn for your school with just the touch of a button.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS: Buy participating products and use the Box Tops mobile app to scan your store receipt. The app identifies eligible products and automatically adds Box Tops to your school's earnings online. Even if you're shopping online or doing grocery pickup, you can still submit your e-receipts and earn Box Tops. Twice a year, our school gets a check!

Your earnings may seem small, but they really do add up. The more people that participate, the bigger the impact we can make. So let's give our teachers the support they need and help give more kids the opportunity to dream. Little by little, we can help make a big difference.

LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW BOX TOPS WORKS AT BTFE.COM.

Box Tops collection boxes are located at the Stephenson Memorial Library, Greenfield Post Office and soon to be at the Greenfield Recycle Center.

DON'T HAVE THE APP YET? DOWNLOAD IT TODAY! Box Tops for Education TM

Please select 'Greenfield Public Elementary School' to help support our local school. THANK YOU!

Coreen Web



GREENVALE CLOSING TO TRAFFIC

As cold weather approaches, the Cemetery Trustees are preparing to close Greenvale to vehicular traffic for the season. The walking gate will remain unlocked and people are welcome to visit gravesites on foot.

The cemetery is closed because the ground is too hard to dig and because even the slightest amount of snow obscures the corner stones and flat foot stone markers and subjects them to being broken.

We ask that you remove any mementoes, keepsakes and tributes that you wish to save before Dec. 6. Thereafter, the Cemetery Trustees will remove non-natural items, including flower pots, plastic flowers and other tributes. Visitors are welcome to leave Christmas wreaths and tributes.

See you in the Spring! *The Cemetery Trustees*



DOG OWNERS TAKE NOTICE

This is a reminder to all dog owners that the Town has a LEASH LAW in effect. Dogs are not permitted to run at large or be a nuisance at any time. Dogs found running at large will be picked up and a summons will be issued to the owner of the dog for court appearance. Dog owners whose dogs are deemed a nuisance will also be summoned to court. RSA 466:30-a

Oak Park Ordinance

Animal owners/controllers will pick up and remove any waste left by their animals on the track, on the grassed areas, in the playground, in the parking lot, or anywhere else in the park except the wooded areas on the outside edges of the park. Animal owners/controllers will also have their animals on a leash or in a private car under control at all times.

PENALTY: Any person found in violation of this ordinance may be fined not more than \$250.00 (two hundred fifty dollars) and/or not more than 20 hours of community services.

The Greenfield Police will strictly enforce animal control laws.

Per order of the Greenfield Selectboard



FROM THE DPW ROADS DIVISION

We are getting ready for the long winter season at the DPW. The salt shed is full and the sand pile at the end of DPW road is stocked with fresh sand for you 24/7.

The new Mack truck should be here just in time for winter service and will replace the 2010 Freightliner.



We have replaced the winter tires on the MT sidewalk tractor.



We added new speed bumps and signs on Slip road to help with safety from speeding traffic (see photo). It is our hope that this will help the residents on that part of the road feel safer, not having to worry about their children walking, riding bikes, and riding horses.

Once again Kurt Atherton will be this year's part time win-



ter plow truck driver for the town! (I have worked with Kurt for almost 10 years).

Please leave us a message so we can get back to you to take care of any road problems that need to be addressed. Remember that we are here for you 24/7 for emergencies by calling the Greenfield Police at 547-2525.

Thank you; Todd Mason, DPW Roads Manager, and the Crew

SPIRIT EMAIL ADDRESS GreenfieldSpirit@gmail.com

Please send your articles to this address by <u>January 1st</u> to be in the Feb/Mar issue.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS.

Our greatest need is daytime help but all are welcome. Being a volunteer emergency responder is about one thing. It's not

what you look like, what degree you have, or where you come from. It's about heart! If you've got the heart to serve your community, you've got everything you need.



STEPHENSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY NEWS David Bridgewater, Director

Library Contact: 547-2790, director@stephensonlibrary.org NOW OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - Hours: Tues 2-6, Wed 10-8, Thurs 2-8, Fri 2-6, Sat 10-4 The Stephenson Memorial Library is a not-for-profit public library.



The library reopening has been successful, with our masked patrons served by our masked staff. We have four virus killing ion generators, and fans at the windows for continuous air exchange. The books and DVDs are quarantined for 72 hours when they are returned. For those who prefer it, we are still doing "curbside" pickup, after ordering by phone or email.

The InterLibrary Loan (ILL) system is back in operation again, slower now because of quarantine at both ends of the journey.



Our six week Science September series posted on the libraries Facebook page is now finished. More activities will be forthcoming so keep looking!





The scarecrow gathering wasn't so successful. Overnight high wind blew over the flowerpot man and destroyed his pottery arms. All the king's men...



The Greenfield Watercolor Collaborative's latest works are now on display, including this one by Betsy Hardwick.

The library has Lego, Construx, K'nex, and Duplo construction sets, and a Brio wooden train set. These can be used, by appointment (547 2790), by families or singles keeping social distance. After use they will be quarantined for three days.



Wings of the Dawn will be giving us a live presentation of their work with rescued wild animals on 10th January, at 2pm in the pavilion at Oak Park. We are asking that you make reservations (547 2790) to sit, in family groups where possible, at the 13 picnic tables.

LIBRARY TREE

The beloved tree in front of the Stephenson Memorial Library was found to be at the end of its life this year. A tree service removed it on Nov. 16, 2020.

Was the tree dedicated in someone's memory, or dedicated to the new wing of the library? We would like to ensure that the reason or memory of its planting continue within the library even though the tree is no more.

Anyone who has information on this should contact the library Director at 547-2790.

WHAT'S UP WITH THE MEETINGHOUSE?

by Jesseca Timmons for Friends of the Greenfield Community Meetinghouse

This is a question we have been hearing a lot of around town lately. As most of you are probably aware, the Town of Greenfield has started the process of launching a much needed repair and renovation of our beautiful 225 year old Meeting House. In 2017, the Town received a grant from the New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP), a state agency "dedicated to preserving the state's natural, historical and cultural resources," to assess the condition of our Meeting House. LCHIP sent a team consisting of architectural historians, architects, and engineers specializing in New England historic buildings to write a detailed report on what the Meeting House needs to be preserved and how it can remain functional to proudly serve as the heart and soul of our town as an asset rather than the liability it is becoming.

To no one's surprise, the 217-page Assessment, which was completed in 2019, recommended a complete basement-tobelfry renovation of the Meeting House, with total costs estimated at \$1.8M. Following the successful models of other recent Meeting House campaigns, such as in Hancock, Francestown, and Temple, the Town of Greenfield, with the help of the Friends of the Meetinghouse, plans to raise funds through a mix of public and private funding, including grants, in-kind donations, and private and foundation gifts. The entire Assessment is available on the Town of Greenfield website: go to "Departments" under the menu at they top of the page; then click on "Meetinghouse." On the "Meetinghouse" page, click on Historic Building Assessment Documents to see the final report. The Assessment is an interesting read, documenting, in detail, the many deficiencies in the building, and tracing the entire history of the Meetinghouse back to original groundbreaking in 1795, when families from what was then Francestown and Lyndeborough came together to raise the Meeting House in the brand new town of Greenfield.

The Meeting House looks fine. Why do we need to do this project now? Can't it wait?

The Town of Greenfield has maintained the essential elements necessary to keep the Meeting House standing most recently, a new roof and a new boiler and our DPW does a nice job of keeping the Meeting House clean and functional for Town Meeting and voting days. But a closer look at the Meeting House reveals just how desperately the building needs our attention. There have been no interior upgrades to the building since the 1970's, when the kitchenette with convenient restroom right in the middle of it!- was added to the west side entry way. The last major interior renovation was in the 1950's, during the Baby Boom, when the basement kitchen and meeting room were completed. The Meeting House currently has no elevator, making the entire Sanctuary space inaccessible, and that handy bathroom in the upstairs kitchen is now against code. The septic system needs to be replaced, the electricity needs to be upgraded, the wood floors can't be sanded one more time; the stained glass windows need to be removed for preservation, there are leaks from top to bottom, the Belfry has structural problems--and that's just the tip of the iceberg (see the Assessment for the full report!).

In the next issue of the Spirit, we'll go into detail on the first proposed phase of the construction: the Stabilization and Preservation Phase, which focuses on the exterior and structural stabilization issues which must be resolved before any interior renovation can get started.

How Can I Help?

We're so glad you asked! The Friends of Meetinghouse needs YOU!

Volunteer.

Do you have experience in fundraising, publicity, grant writing, or event planning? Are you just interested in the Meeting House and would like to help out? We'd love to hear from you! Please email us at greenfieldmeeting house@gmail.com to join our mailing list and find out about meetings and events! (We are not currently holding public meetings or events due to COVID.)

Spread the word. Please help spread the word by purchasing your "Save the Meeting House" car magnet or sticker at Delay's Harvester Market or Toadstool Books.

Give. The Friends of the Greenfield Community Meeetinghouse is a registered 501(c)3 organization in the State of New Hampshire. All donations are tax-deductible! Please send donations to Kathy Seigars, Treasurer, Friends of the Greenfield Meeting House, 7 Sawmill Road, PO Box 256, Greenfield NH, 03047 or call Bob Pettegrew at 603-491-4101.

Stay in touch! Email us at greenfieldmeeting house@gmail.com to join our mailing list., follow our Friends of the Greenfield Community Meetinghouse Facebook page, or find us on Instagram at @FGCM2020.





FROM THE RECYCLING CENTER

I have been staffing the GRC for the last six months by myself due to the pandemic. It hasn't left me anytime to write articles. Although the Selectboard suspended mandatory recycling and encouraged a "throw and go" policy, I was pretty sure that our hard core recyclers would want to find a way to continue recycling if a safe (both for staff and the public) could be found. Using the best government information and input from the Emergency Management Team, the plan became to allow people to drop off their #1 and #2 plastics in bags that would be quarantined for a couple of days and sorted later. Since cardboard had a short viral survival rate it was allowed to open the cardboard window with the stipulation that the plastic curtains be removed. Since the mixed paper, glass and steel cans were already on a "throw and go" basis they continued to be open as normal with mask wearing and distancing stipulations. The Mini-Mall and Book-Nook would be closed until further notice.

How did we do? Well, trash is only up 18% from last year, meaning that we were still recycling 82%. With people confined to their dwellings, home projects and basement/attic cleanings increased demo by 38% over the same period last year. Despite the increased volume, we were for the most part

SCOTT-FARRAR IS HOME



able to maintain our pre-covid every 2 weeks MDS pick-up schedule. Best of all, we did it safely. Neither I nor any of the patrons became infected.

Due to actions taken by the townspeople to reduce the risk of viral transmission, the danger was reduced to a point where the Emergency Management Team allowed Bill Gaudette, our "inside man" to return to work. As you may have noticed, we are beginning to get caught up on the backlog of recyclables.

Before any more changes are made, we will have to see what happens this fall when outdoor activity is reduced.

Caleb "C.J." Hall Recycling Supervisor



SPIRIT DEADLINE

JANUARY 1ST FOR THE FEB/MAR ISSUE

What is home? At Scott-Farrar home is not worrying about plowing the driveway, shoveling walkways, and other winter chores. Home is having friendly staff from our housekeeping team stop by to tidy up your apartment. Home is selecting a good book from our library and enjoying the calm atmosphere as you read.

SCOTT-FARRAR.COM SCHEDULE A TOUR WITH TOBY TODAY 603-924-3691

NON-PROFIT 501 (C) CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION INDEPENDENT LIVING, ASSISTED LIVING, AND MEMORY CARE

GREENFIELD SHINES ON ELECTION DAY

Congratulations to the Town of Greenfield on a record breaking turnout for a record breaking historic election. The list of thank yous is exhaustive.

First, thanks to Moderator Bill Nichols and Town Clerk Dorene Adams for yeoman service that began last spring, wound its way through the summer, appeared in a Primary Election in September and culminated in a flawless Presidential Election in November. Their countless hours in video conferences, personal conversations, training sessions and constant communication with the Secretary Of State's Office and the Attorney General's Office were important in our success. Their layout of the polling place was impressive.

Our Supervisors of the Checklist, Linda Dodge, Kathy Siegars and Ellen Sanford played a critical role in getting new voters registered, either during their scheduled hours outside of the election days or during the election, having been relegated to tents outside the building.

Special thanks to Rick McQuade and the DPW: to Rick for set-up and takedown of the Meeting House for both elections. Thanks to Todd Mason and his DPW crew who responded quickly to the snow squall crisis on Election Day getting sand spread at the Meeting House in the middle of their own crisis on maintenance of town roads.

Our Ballot Clerks, Marge Dineen, Richard Stadnik, Anne Setaro, and Kathi Beltz were outstanding. Not only did they get voters in to the booths, but they also played a key role reconciling the count after the polls closed. Thanks too to Carol Irvin who guided voters to open polling booths and then to the checkout.

Thanks go out to Police Chief Brian Giammarino and Sgt. Frank Shea for their services. Not to be forgotten were Bruce Dodge, Deputy Moderator and ballot counter extraordinaire, and the more than forty four residents who came back after the polls closed to help with the counting. For the record, the residents counting ballots concluded about 9 p.m., then the Moderator tally of all the tally sheets was done by 11:47 p.m. After his visit on Election Day, the representative from the Secretary of State's office scored Greenfield at 100% in our conduct of the Election!

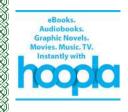
Here are some interesting facts: Total Votes Cast: 1019 Absentee/Mail in Ballots: 247 Newly Registered Voters: 79

Congratulations and thank you to all.



S/

The Friends is a volunteer nonprofit group that supports our wonderful town library and town with many events and programs. Consider joining our group. We have lots of opportunities for you to be involved.



The Friends are thrilled to announce the addition of Hoopla to the Library's online offerings! Hoopla is a groundbreaking digital media lending service offered by your library that allows you to borrow movies,

music, audiobooks, ebooks, comics and TV shows to enjoy on your computer, tablet, or phone - and even your TV! ... There are over 500,000 items in the Hoopla catalog. Users sign up with an email address, password, and library card information, and Hoopla gives them access to the library's collection of digital titles. Users can then borrow up to ten titles per month! Contact the library for more information!



Annual Town Tree Lighting Friday December 4th at 6pm.

This will be an outdoor event on the library lawn with holiday music and cheer! Join us to welcome in the holidays with your neighbors!

See the Library Facebook page for details.

President : Valli Hannings Vice President : Alyssum Proctor Russell Treasurer: Linda Nickerson Secretary: Jamie Johnson

Contact the Friends: Stephensonlibraryfriends@gmail.com

Please like us on Facebook - Friends of the Stephenson Memorial Library

Visit us at http://bit.ly/smlfriends

Greenfield Tradespeople: To include your FREE Business listing, call 547-3442

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> **Spring Pond Farm Alpacas** Alpaca yarns, socks & other products for sale. 81 Muzzey Hill Road 547-2964

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Kat Carpenter, Real Estate Agent LiG Properties, llc 7 Slip Rd #4, Greenfield - 603-217-2200 kat.carpenter@ligproperties.com

Linda K. Gray Realtor/Appraiser The Bean Group/LKG Appraisal 603-801-8002 or lindagray09@gmail.com

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Your ad listing could be here! Just send us your information and we'll print it for free. Make sure you only give us <u>4 lines</u> (between 10-15 words). Thanks.

If you live in Greenfield... ...you're already a "Friend of the Meetinghouse!"



Help Give Our Meetinghouse another 225 Years!

- Join our mailing list! Email us at: greenfieldmeetinghouse@gmail.com
- Help spread the word! Follow us on Facebook at Friends of the Greenfield Community Meetinghouse or on Instagram @FGCM2020...and please share!
- Volunteer! We're now planning events for 2021...we need your help!
- Give! For more information about supporting the Meetinghouse campaign, please call Bob Pettegrew at 603-491-4101 or email bob@bobpettegrew.com.

Sponsored by Friends of the Greenfield Community Meetinghouse Board



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The FGCM is a registered 501(c)3 organization. Please send your taxdeductible donation to: Friends of the Greenfield Community Meetinghouse, PO Box 256, 7 Sawmill Road, Greenfield, NH, 03047.



Continued on page 11

SPONSOR THE SPIRIT

If you'd like to sponsor an issue of the Greenfield Spirit, please call the Town Office at 547-3442. The cost is low, and it's a great way to get the word out about your business or group, as well as an easy way to support your community. Interest has been so great that we now have a sign-up form to keep everyone's turn organized. Please call the Town Office to get on the list.



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Feb/Mar issue deadline: January 1, 2021